

in the Mavelikara taluk are put to very great trouble and unnecessary loss of time and money by the fact that that *pakuthi* is included in the jurisdiction of the Mavelikara Munsiff's Court?

(b) Are the Government aware that the distance from most parts of Vallikkunnam *pakuthi* to the Mavelikara Munsiff's Court is about 12 miles or more, while that to the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court is only about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles or less?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on the several petitions sent by the people of Vallikkunnam *pakuthi* to the Government and the High Court, for the transfer of the *pakuthi* to the jurisdiction of the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to sanction at an early date the transfer of jurisdiction prayed for?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) No.

(b) The greatest distance from the Vallikkunnam *pakuthi* to the Mavelikara Court is 14 miles and the shortest distance is 12 miles, while the greatest distance to the Krishnapuram Court is 6 miles, the shortest distance being 3 miles.

(c) & (d) The file of the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court is already heavy and does not admit of any extension of the jurisdiction of that Court. If, however, any such trouble or loss of time and money as is referred to in part (a) above is shown to result from the present arrangement, the transfer of jurisdiction suggested will be considered.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): As regards the answers to (c) and (d), will the Government be pleased to enquire whether the file of the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court has not of late years been considerably lightened?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government will enquire.

Vernacular Schools in the Planting Districts.

95. MR. S. GNANA JOSHUA (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Sirkar and grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools that are maintained for the education of the children of labourers and other estate employees in the planting districts in the State?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There are no departmental or grant-in-aid schools maintained exclusively for the education of the children of labourers or other estate employees in the planting districts. With very few exceptions, all schools in the State are open to all classes.

MR. S. GNANA JOSHUA (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools open to all classes of students in the planting districts?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If the member will specify the particular area in regard to planting districts in respect of which he wants the information, the information will be called for. There is no such district as planting district. If he wants the number of schools in a particular area, that information may be called for.

MR. S. GNANA JOSHUA (*Nominated*): I mean Peermade, Devicolam, Shencotta, Ponmudi, Ashambu and Mundakayam.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There are planting districts both in North Travancore and in South Travancore. The term planting district is a wide enough term. If the member wants the information regarding the number of schools in any specified area, on his putting a question, that information can be obtained and supplied.

MR. S. GNANA JOSHUA (*Nominated*): Will it be as regards each taluk?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, it may be by taluks.

Debenture bond of the M. P. M. T. & A. Company, Ltd.

96. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelkara cum Kartikapalli*): (i) With reference to the item "Other Funds (Debenture Bonds of the M. P. M. T. & A. Company, Ltd.)" Rs. 45,800 given under 'General Balance in Securities' on page 7 of the Budget Estimate for 1101 M. E., will the Government be pleased to state the following particulars:—

- (a) the full name of the company and its head office;
- (b) when the investment was made and on whose recommendation it was made;
- (c) the percentage of interest or other advantage to Government from the investment;
- (d) the initial expenditure for the investment, and its present approximate market value; and
- (e) the essential terms of the investment and the date on which the amount is repayable by the company?

(ii) Will the Government consider all the present circumstances of the case and state whether it is desirable in the interests of the State to dispose of or encash these Debenture Bonds of the company as early as practicable?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (a) The full name of the company is "The Mundakayam Peermade Motor Transport and Aerial Ropeway Company, Limited" and its Head Office is at Kottayam.

(b) The investment was made in June 1915 after careful consideration of its advantages by Government.

(c) The rate of interest is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.